

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action mailed July 1, 2004, claims 1-4, 8, 16, 17, 19 and 20 were rejected. Claims 1-20 were pending. Claims 5-7, 9-15 and 18 were objected to. Claims 1, 3, 4 and 16 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 2, 5, 6, 8 and 17-20 have been amended. The Examiner is thanked for the indication of allowable subject matter. Applicants have thoroughly reviewed the outstanding Office Action including the Examiner's remarks and the references cited therein. The following remarks are believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action. All the pending claims at issue are believed to be patentable over the cited references.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 8, 16, 17, 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over the United States Patent No. 5,768,897 to Rainville *et al.* in view of United States Publication 2003/0164091 to Hill *et al.* In light of the amendments to the claims herein and the indicated allowable subject matter, withdrawal of the rejection is hereby respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully requests the rejections be withdrawn. If, for any reason, the Examiner disagrees, please call the undersigned agent at 202-861-1748 in an effort to resolve any matter still outstanding before issuing another action. The undersigned attorney is confident that any issue which might remain can readily be worked out by telephone.

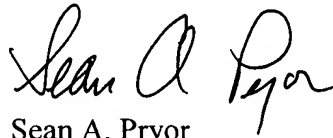
Docket No. 87334.5821
Serial No. 10/724,624
Customer No. 30734

Patent

In the event this paper is not time filed, Applicant petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fee deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-2036.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER & HOSTETLER LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean A. Pryor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sean" and last name "Pryor" clearly distinguishable.

Sean A. Pryor
Reg. No. 48,103

Date: **October 1, 2004**
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